

WOMEN'S INTERESTS

A GIRL AND A MAN

A New and Vital Romance of City Life by Virginia Terhune Van der Water

CHAPTER LI.

(Copyright, 1916, Star Company.) On Friday, Miss Lucy Morley was taken to the hospital and to the private room for which she had asked. That evening Agnes came home to a lonely flat, every lamp put to rights by Jennie O'Neill, who greeted her as she entered the front door.

would never consent to his marriage with a girl who was a mere nobody. But surely there could be no harm in her comforting herself for a little while with the knowledge that Phil cared for her—even if later she must tell him that, under the circumstances, she must not see her until he was established in business and could demand his father's recognition of the woman he would make his wife.

"I'm going to stay here to-night, ma'am," the good-natured Irish girl announced. "It'll be better than my being here all alone. You look that tired."

She checked herself sharply. That would be years from now. She was older than Phil; she might by then be worn out and plain.

"I have to go out to do some work this evening," she explained, "and I will be down for a little while first. I slept very little last night. Here"—opening her purse—"go to the delicatessen shop and get something for your own supper. You can make a cup of coffee for me just before I go out, if you will, but nothing to eat."

As she started out of her front door she wondered if the girl in her desire to spare her would exercise the right of private judgment should any word come from Aunt Lucy.

She tried to keep her thoughts on such sweet subjects as Phil's affection for her, but they would in spite of herself wander fearfully into the future. That room at the hospital must be paid for. The surgeon must be paid. It had taken nearly all the ready money she had to pay Miss Watson what was due her. Only a couple of dollars remained, and so many must be paid out within the next month! What could she do?

She went back into the flat. "Remember, Jennie," she said, "whoever comes—mind you, whoever comes—tell him where I am and that he is to go right for me, or call me up. Promise that you will not let dear Auntie in 'til I have a word with her."

It was characteristic of the girl that she never thought of telling Philip Hale of her need of money. Even though he was the son of a rich man she would not borrow from him. She forced herself to think sanely of his prospects. She knew that he had his way to make yet, and that his father

she would not see her until he was established in business and could demand his father's recognition of the woman he would make his wife. Then, if he still loved her, she might—

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Love Insurance



By Earl Derr Biggers

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CHAPTER III.

"The Name of the Happy Man."

EXCELLENT train, it seemed fairly to fly for a little while, then another stop. Beauty wildly anxious on the seat of ancient plush. Another start—a stop—and a worried but musical voice in Dick Minot's ear:

plied, coming to with a start. "I can speak of it even more enthusiastically than any of the railroad folders do. And yet it's only recent—my discovery of its charms."

"I beg your pardon, but what should you say are this train's chances for reaching San Marco by 1 o'clock?" Minot turned. Brown eyes and troubled ones looked into his. A dimple twinkled beside an adorable mouth. Fortunate Florida, peopled with girls like this.

"Really?" "Yes. When I was surveying it on that stop watch of a train my impression of it was quite unfavorable. It seemed so monotonous. I told myself nothing exciting could ever happen there."

"I should say," smiled Mr. Minot, "about the same as those of the famous little snowball that strayed far from home."

"And something has happened?" "Yes, something certainly has happened."

"Oh, you're right!" Why would she fidget so? "And I'm in a frightfully uncomfortable position. I simply must reach San Marco for luncheon at 1. I must!" She clinched her small hands. "It's the most important luncheon of my life. What shall I do?"

"What did you mean," he asked, "when you said you were always doing things like this?"

"I don't dare not to." As Agnes walked toward her destination she appreciated that she had eaten no luncheon this noon.

"I meant," she answered, "that I'm a silly little fool. Oh, if you could know me well, and her eyes seemed to question the future, "you'd see for yourself. Never looking ahead to calculate the consequences. It's the old story of fools rushing in."

"No wonder I feel a bit weak," she mused. "I must not let myself get run down, even if I am tired. I will take a bite of food before I go to bed to-night. Or, recalling Bainbridge's repeated offers of 'something to eat or drink' on the various evenings on which she had worked for him, 'if Mr. Bainbridge asks me to have a sandwich after my work is done, I'll take it this time. There will be no hurry about my getting back to the flat—now that dear Auntie is not there expecting me.'"

"You mean of angels rushing in, don't you? I never was good at old saws, but—"

The remembrance of her beloved relative's whereabouts brought back the same harrowing thoughts. Aunt Lucy in the hospital in a private room, awaiting a serious operation. And these things must be paid for, and the money to pay for them must be earned by her! But how?

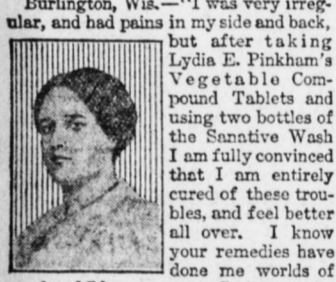
"And once more, please—your watch?" "Twenty minutes of 1." "Oh, dear! Can we?" A wild whoop from the driver interrupted.

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"I ain't no prophet, lady"—a humorous gleam came into his eye—"but ever since I got this car I been feelin' sort o' reckless. If you say so I'll bid all my family and friends goodby, and we'll take a chance on San Marco together."

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